



TFW

# CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being mailed in an envelope by First Class mail to:

**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

on 8-3-04

Suzanne Skinner  
(Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence)

Suzanne Skinner  
(Signature of person mailing correspondence)

Serial Number: 10/686,684

Filing Date: October 16, 2003

Title: **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR HEAT TREATMENT AND SAND  
REMOVAL FOR CASTINGS**

Our Reference Number: C152 1092.1

2<sup>nd</sup> Information Disclosure Statement  
Form PTO-1449  
Return Postcard



Sheet 1 of 1

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

Application Number  
10/686,684Filing Date  
October 16, 2003INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  
(Use as many sheets as necessary)First Named Inventor  
Crafton et al.Art Unit  
N/A)Examiner Name  
N/A)Attorney Docket Number  
C152 1092.1

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A	5,071,487	McKibben et al.	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

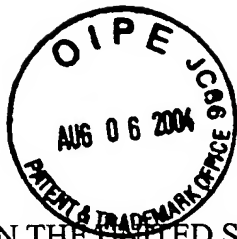
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published

EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE:

DATE CONSIDERED:



**PATENTS**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )

**CRAFTON ET AL.** )

Serial No: **10/047,587** )

Filed: **January 15, 2002** )

For: **INTERVERTEBRAL DISC PROTHESIS AND METHODS OF IMPLANTATION**

**SECOND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby voluntarily discloses the item listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the Commissioner for Patents. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy is not enclosed.

Applicant further reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the listed information should they be applied as references, and/or to prove that some of the cited information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that some of the cited information may not be enabling for the teachings they purport to offer. This statement further should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that the information cited herewith is material, or that there does not exist information more material to the examination of the present Application. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the information submitted herein. On the contrary, the Examiner is requested to conduct an independent and thorough review of the information, and to form independent opinions as to their significance.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return copies of the enclosed PTO-1449 and to indicate in the official file wrapper of the above-identified patent application that each item of the cited information has been considered.

Date: 7/27/04



Louis T. Isaf  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg#29,078

Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC  
P.O. Box 7037  
Atlanta, GA 30357-0037  
(404) 872-7000 (Telephone)  
(404) 888-7490 (Facsimile)

Docket No.: **C152 1092.1**